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| CLASSIFICATION | | CONFIDENTIAL | | 25X1A | |
| COUNTRY | East Germany | | SECURITY INFORMATION | | |
| | | REPORT NO. | | | |
| TOPIC Engineer Battalion in Fuenfeichen of KVP Bereitschaft Prenzlau | | | | | |
| 25X1X | | | | | |
| EVALUATION | | PLACE OBTAINED | | 25X1 | |
| DATE OF CONTENT 11 November 1952 to 8 July 1953 | | | | | |
| DATE OBTAINED | | | 25X1 | DATE PREPARED 19 August 1953 | |
| REFERENCES | | | | | |
| PAGES | 2 | | ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) | | |
| REMARKS | | | | | |
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1. The engineer battalion in Fuenfeichen was subordinate to the KVP Bereitschaft in Prenzlau of Heeresgruppe Nord in Pasewalk, and consisted of a headquarters with 15 officers; an administrative platoon with 2 officers, 7 NCOs and 6 KVPs; the motor platoon consisting of 1 officer, 4 NCOs and 20 personnel; the technical platoon consisting of 1 officer, 4 NCOs and 15 personnel; and the 1st through 4th Cos each consisting of 5 officers, 10 NCOs and 54 personnel. The unit was quartered in the hutment north of the Burg Stargard-Neubrandenburg-Fuenfeichen intersection where also the engineer battalions of the KVP Bereitschaft in Eggesin and the KVPD in Pasewalk were quartered.¹
2. Officers of the engineer battalion in Fuenfeichen included Senior Lieutenant Wilfer (fnu) as commanding officer, Lieutenant Walkowsky (fnu) as PK Officer, Senior Lieutenant Peter (fnu) as chief of staff and Lieutenant Plitz (fnu). Five attached Soviet advisors wore KVP uniforms.
3. Each company of the engineer battalion in Fuenfeichen was armed with four Degtyarev light machine guns. The ammunition boxes of the installation quartered 5,000 rounds of ammunition for machine guns, 3,000 rounds of ammunition for light machine guns and about 20 tons of explosive including Donarit, gelatine and blasting cartridges including some which had a weight up to 1,000 g. The ammunition was Soviet ammunition while the explosives were of German origin and, according to their inscriptions came from Plant I or Plant II of the explosive plants in Schoenebeck on the Elbe River.
4. The motor vehicle equipment of the engineer battalion in Fuenfeichen included 30 H 3 A trucks carrying pontoons, 2 BMW sedans and 2 P-1 cross-country cars.
5. The engineer equipment of the engineer battalion in Fuenfeichen included bridge building equipment for a bridge 40 meters long, 40 pontoons, 10 assault boats, 8 pneumatic rafts and 2 motor boats. The equipment was furnished by the central engineer depot in Kuechensee.

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6. The training schedule of the engineer unit in Fuenfeichen included the laying and clearing of anti-tank mines and anti personnel mines, the construction of roads for tanks and motor vehicles, the construction of bridges and ferries and the operating of pontons.
7. The personnel of the engineer battalion in Fuenfeichen included 15 percent of the 1935 class, 25 percent of the 1934 class, 10 percent of the 1933 class, 20 percent of the 1932 class, 5 percent of the 1931, 10 percent of the 1930 class and 15 percent of older classes. About 60 percent of the officers and personnel served for less than three years and 40 percent served between 3 and 5 years. Ten percent of the personnel came from Saxony, 5 percent from Saxony-Anhalt, 25 percent from Thuringia, 20 percent from Brandenburg, 30 percent from Mecklenburg and 10 percent came from Berlin. Ten percent of the personnel were communists, 20 percent were indifferent, 10 percent disliked the regime and 60 percent were opponents.
8. Shortly prior to 17 June, it was announced that the battalion would be renamed into Abteilung and the division into Bereitschaft. In conjunction with the events on 17 June, which were broadcast over Rias, 1 company of the engineer battalion of the Prenzlau Bereitschaft, 2 companies of the engineer battalion of the KVPD in Pasewalk and 1 company of the engineer battalion of the Bereitschaft in Eggesin, all of them stationed in Fuenfeichen, resolved to go on a hunger strike which they continued until 19 June 1953, when better food was promised. On 19 June, 60 persons were arrested as instigators of the strike and were surrendered to the SSD. All KVP personnel who had completed their 3-year term of service were assembled in a special dormitory on 8 July and were told that they would probably be discharged on orders of the Ministry of the Interior.²

25X1A. ☐ Comment. It is believed that because of the possibilities for engineer training, Fuenfeichen is post of the engineer battalions of Armeegruppe Nord under Captain Kiesslich and of the divisions in Prenzlau and Eggesin. Elements of these battalions were, however, temporarily transferred to the Stallberg-Torgelow-Karpin area for the execution of exercises.

25X1A. ☐ Comment. No definite information is available to indicate to what extent KVPs with more than three years of service were discharged.

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